

NO: 498), RVVPGRGICLDLAILDSAFL (SEQ ID NO: 499), LDSAFLLSQVAPSLFMGSIV (SEQ ID NO: 500), FMGSIVQLSQSVTAYMVSA (SEQ ID NO: 501).

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 2, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figure 9 is a schematic representation of the P501S protein (SEQ ID NO: 113) showing the location of transmembrane domains and predicted intracellular and extracellular domains.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 7, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figure 11 shows the results of an ELISA assay to determine the specificity of rabbit polyclonal antisera raised against P501S. The depicted sequence corresponding to peptide P501S 306-320 is set forth in SEQ ID NO: 519 and the sequence corresponding to P501S 296-320 is set forth in SEQ ID NO: 520

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 18-26 and 30-34.

Please amend claims 28, 29 and 35 to read as follows:

28. (Amended) An isolated polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:108, or a fragment thereof comprising at least 25 consecutive amino acid residues of SEQ ID NO:108.

29. (Amended) An isolated polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:108, or a fragment thereof comprising at least 50 consecutive amino acid residues of SEQ ID NO:108.

35. (Amended) A fusion protein comprising a polypeptide according to any one of claims 27-29.

REMARKS

Applicants wish to thank Examiner Souaya for the productive telephonic interview conducted on February 25, 2003. Favorable reconsideration of the subject application